



State of Arizona

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Governor Jan Brewer Announces Appointment to the Arizona Board of Regents

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today announced the appointment of Jay Heiler to the Arizona Board of Regents, effective January 2012.

“Jay’s extensive leadership in education, business, government and strategic planning makes him uniquely-qualified to serve in this role helping direct the future of higher education in Arizona,” said Governor Brewer. “As founder and chairman of the Board of the Great Hearts Academies, he has hands-on experience helping our children reach their academic potential. His inspiration and creativity will be needed now more than ever as Arizona searches for ways to maximize the state’s investment in higher education by improving its quality and broadening its reach.”

The Governor has established a series of aggressive goals for higher education, most notably with her push for the Regents to develop a lower-cost model for university degrees and her call for universities to double the number of baccalaureate degrees issued in Arizona by 2020. Two additional positions on the Board of Regents are scheduled to come vacant in January. Governor Brewer plans to announce those appointments in the weeks ahead so that the new members are prepared in advance of joining the Board early next year.

Mr. Heiler has been one of the state’s leaders in making school choice and quality a reality for Arizona students. In addition to his work with Great Hearts Academies, a network of charter prep schools educating 5,000 students in Phoenix, he serves as President of the Board of Directors for the Arizona Charter Schools Association. Previously, Mr. Heiler was President of the Board for St. Francis Xavier School, as well as a member of the Board of Directors for The Morrison Institute, The Goldwater Institute and the Arizona School Choice Trust. This blend of experience will be valuable as Mr. Heiler and other Regents work to make the university experience as accessible and relevant as possible to Arizona students.

“We are still a young state, and the greatest structural influence on Arizona’s second 100 years will come from its schools and universities,” Mr. Heiler said. “Across time, there can be no work more important than sharpening the mission and continuously improving the performance of these vital and constitutionally-required institutions.”

Mr. Heiler has been a high-profile leader in Arizona public policy for more than two decades. He served in a series of leadership roles, including Chief of Staff, under former Governor Fife Symington. Earlier, Mr.

Heiler was Assistant Attorney General under Arizona Attorney General Bob Corbin. Since leaving public service in 1997, Mr. Heiler has worked as a political consultant in public affairs and strategic communications. His clients have included corporate, government and non-profit interests.

Mr. Heiler graduated from Arizona State University with a bachelor's in journalism (1983), and completed his law degree from the ASU School of Law (1986). He has been admitted to the State Bar of Arizona, Virginia State Bar and the Federal District Court of Arizona.

Mr. Heiler's appointment to the State Board of Regents is subject to confirmation by the Arizona State Senate.

"Governor Brewer has done her part to lead Arizona with strength and purpose in education policy, and her confidence is deeply appreciated," he said. "If supported by the Senate, I look forward to much hard work alongside others on the board, its dedicated staff and all those in leadership of the universities as they continue to maneuver through challenging times."

Mr. Heiler will replace Regent Fred DuVal, who currently serves as Chairman of the Board. Governor Brewer thanked Regent DuVal for his service to the State of Arizona.

"Mr. Duval has been a devoted public servant and vocal advocate for higher education," Governor Brewer said. "He has served the State of Arizona well."

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